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U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Washington, D.C. 20515

NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS

MELVIN PRICE, CHAIRMAN

February 1, 1978

Executive Registry
78-4431

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USSR

HASC

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

During your recent testimony before the House Armed Services Committee, you gave a presentation on the Soviet civil defense effort. You indicated that your presentation was based on the latest U.S. assessment of Soviet civil defense capabilities, and was the result of a recently concluded U. S. interagency task force review.

As you know, our Committee has devoted a great deal of time to this subject, and we will continue to review it this year as we consider the military authorization bill. I would, therefore, appreciate your providing the Committee with a copy of this latest report since it will be helpful to our deliberations and review.

Your prompt and courteous attention to this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

G. William Whitehurst

G. William Whitehurst

GWG:phg

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Executive Secretary

3 Feb
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January 30, 1978

Hon. Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Adm. Turner:

I am deeply concerned that the Soviet Union may be conducting space missions designed for military applications beyond mere intelligence gathering. Specifically, I am struck by the possible military potential of the technology and techniques developed by the Soviets in conducting the Soyuz 25 through 27 missions. Additionally, as you know, on January 24, 1978, the Cosmos 954 mission terminated when that satellite crashed into the Great Slave Lake region of the North West Territories in Canada. Newspaper accounts report that the satellite carried 100 to 110 pounds of enriched Uranium 235 for use as a component in the nuclear powered, intelligence-gathering equipment on the satellite. Finally, the Soviet Union has done extensive work in developing a fractional orbital bombardment system which would permit attack of the United States from virtually any point on the compass with little or no warning.

In view of this apparent development of military weapons systems for use in outer space, I request that the Library of Congress prepare for my use a full report on all Soviet space missions of military potential together with an analysis of the present and future capability of the Soviet Union to wage war in outer space. Particularly, the report should discuss in detail the need for 100 pounds of enriched Uranium 235 to power a nuclear reactor installed in a satellite and should discuss the possibility that the nuclear fuel involved was a component part of a weapons system rather than an atomic reactor. Also the report should discuss the military applications of high energy particle beam research in connection with Soviet satellite missions. The present capabilities of the Soviet Union to destroy American communications and intelligence satellites should also be covered in as much detail as is possible.

Incidentally, I would also appreciate receiving any unclassified information you may have updating the report you previously prepared for my use concerning Soviet efforts to modify atmospheric or weather conditions on a macrocosmic basis.

Hon. Stansfield Turner

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January 30, 1978

I consider the work I am asking to be done to be of paramount importance, particularly inasmuch as the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks could well lead to the submission of a new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty to the Senate in this session of the Congress.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,


James B. Allen

JBA/qmc

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Remarks:

Please prepare interim response and
advise target date for conveyance of report.

Executive Secretary

2 Feb 78

Date

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